

# 2017 Legislative Platform

## Our Students

### Mission

Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society



## Our Future

### Vision

Every Student Future Ready:

- Prepared for college
- Prepared for the global workplace
- Prepared for personal success

### Board of Directors

Nancy Bernard  
President,  
District 3

Christopher  
Carlson  
Vice President,  
District 2

Eric Laliberte  
Director,  
District 1

Mark Stuart  
Director,  
District 4

Siri Bliesner  
Director,  
District 5

Dr. Traci Pierce,  
Superintendent

## Lake Washington School District's Priorities:

### Ensure Academic Success for Every Student

#### ***Fully Fund Basic Education for Student Success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

- We believe the Legislature should fully comply with its "paramount duty" to provide ample funding for all K-12 children by funding and implementing all aspects of Washington's redefined program of Basic Education (HB 2261 [2009]) and SHB 2776 (2010) through a comprehensive, stable, and sustainable funding system.

### Recruit, Hire, and Retain Highly Effective Personnel

#### ***Fully Fund the True Costs of Public School Employee Compensation***

- We believe the Legislature should include public school employee compensation in the Basic Education funding system. We believe the Legislature should build on the recommendations of the [June 2012 Compensation Technical Working Group Final Report](#). In addition, we believe that a regional cost of living allowance should be implemented as part of a Basic Education funding system for public school employee compensation.

### Provide Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

#### ***Update the State Formula for School Construction Funding Assistance from Pre-1979 Standards***

- We believe the Legislature should increase the state's funding formulas for school construction so that the allocation of square feet per student at least meets the national average, is adjusted to address the changes in class size and changing graduation requirements, and reflects the actual costs of construction for the implementation of Basic Education including all-day kindergarten and K-3 class size reduction.

#### ***Exempt School District from State Sales Tax on Capital Construction Costs***

- We believe that taxpayers should not be taxed twice for school construction. School bonds, paid for with local taxes, currently include the cost of state sales tax. Many other activities such as state ferry construction and stadium parking are exempt. Public schools should also be exempt.

#### ***Allow for Simple Majority Passage of School Construction Bonds***

- We believe the Legislature should propose a constitutional amendment that would provide for the approval of school district bonds by simple majority and would eliminate the supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in the previous elections.

### Maintain Flexibility to Meet Local Community Needs and Priorities

#### ***Protect Community Voice in Education***

- We believe the Legislature should ensure that local school communities maintain flexibility to fund enrichment beyond Basic Education. We believe that local districts should maintain the authority to collect local dollars to fund local needs, above and beyond Basic Education. We believe that the ability to collect local funds should be consistently applied to all districts and the legislature should address the inherent inequities that currently exist as a result of both salary and levy lid grandfathering.